Mr. Grason Eckel
P.O. Box 38515
Baltimore, MD 21231-8515

7/13/93

Dear Mr. Eckel,

If there is any way in which I can be of help in your very worthwhile effort I want to, However, I am limited physically and for years have not lived in contact with the harassment of blacks. However, I think I can respond to any questions you, Senator Mitchell or any others in your center may have about the King assassination. The problem in doing that comes from it not being safe for me to drive out of Frederick and since 1977 I have not. I also have to keep hours that for most are convoluted, from prostate trouble that gets me up nights and from sleep apnea, which also does. The latter is not treatable in me so I am usually wide awake too soon. By going to bed abnormally early I am managing to get a little more sleep. So, alas, I am aim to pillow my head by 7 p.m.

However, you, singular or as plural as you'd like, are welcome here whenever you think I can be of help. Whether or not there can be meaningful access to records as voluminous as I got on the King assassination, for your project, that is, I would like you (plural) to be aware of them and what they hold for other possible uses. One is for theses. I give any legitimate student and anyone writing in the ~~Filec~~ field (as well) although I do not regard those who have written as legitimate, access to those records.

By the way, a former young Baltimore woman, Nancy Gilece, whose brother then was with a large Baltimore law firm, did a very good study of two sets of files I got in my King assassination work. They are on the Memphis sanitation-workers strike and on the group of young blacks who took the unfortunate name of a TV show, The Invaders. Both files hold examples of harassment. She is now staff at local Hood College, where she had been a student and where all I have will ultimately go.

Her then professor and my dear friend, Dr. Gerald McKnight, has completed the manuscript of what I believe is a fine book on The March on Washington, or The Poor Peoples Campaign. I am sure he found illustrations you may want to know about. (As yet he has no publisher.)

I think Ms. Gilece, now married and a mother, is in charge of Hood's minority recruitment program and they have many minority young women from all over the world.

She should remember what I do not but I believe those files reflect harassment of local Memphis black political leaders. I am sure the campaign, his first, by Harold Ford, was penetrated by at least one police informer.

Be careful about what you use as said to be about the King assassination and a form of harassment. For example, the black policeman named Ed Redditt who was pulled away from near the Lorraine Motel was not, as Mark Lane wrote, part of any "security." He and another officer were actually of the police "red" squad and they were spying on King and those who visited him. The rest of that story is also false. And that, may I caution you, can be ruinous. What comes to mind is that Lane and Dick Gregory went to the White House to protest that a young man who knew about that assassination was being harassed. If Lane had looked into

that story, as I had earlier, he would have known it was a poor fabrication with a reduced sentence hoped for from it, on a dope charge. When the White House asked the Department of Justice about it there was suddenly egg, dirty egg, on many faces.

I write instead of phoning as you suggested because I am supposed to do a radio show on the King assassination by phone this afternoon. (My Frame-Up on it has been reprinted as a quality paperback.)

Apologies for my typing. It cannot be any better. I must have my legs up when not walking.

When you see John Conyers please coveny convey my best wishes and profound respect. He is a wise, able, thoughtful caring and courageous man, in the real sense a real man.

And save for Flo Kennedy in New York, he is the only person who tried to help the only book that proved the King assasination was not solved at all.

Best wishes, include good luck!

Harold Weisberg

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